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ABSTRACT

This book recognizes the political nature of management knowledge, as a discourse produced from, and reproducing, power processes within and between organizations. Critical examinations of certain current management theories--lean production, excellence, entrepreneurship--are examples of relations of power that intermingle with relations of knowledge. Authors from a variety of different countries address the social and political processes involved in a cross-cultural transference of management ideas across the world. The text focuses on the political nature of management knowledge and is divided into 3 parts: producing managers, comparative cultural recipes for management, and the future for management. The book opens with "Introduction: Producing Management Knowledge" (Stewart R. Clegg and Gill Palmer). In part 1, "Producing Managers," the chapters include: (1) "Making Up Managers: Enterprise and the Ethos of Bureaucracy" (Paul du Gay); (2) "The Mantality of Management: SElf-Images of American Top Executives" (Klaus P. Hansen); and (3) "The Role of Social Identity in the International Transfer of Knowledge through Joint Ventures" (John Child and Suzana Rodrigues). In part 2, "Comparative Cultural Recipes for Management," the chapters include: (4) "Lean Production: the Myth which Changes the World?" (Bengt Sandkull); (5) "The International Popularization of Entrepreneurial Ideas" (Jose Luis Alvarez); (6) "Excellence at Large: Power, Knowledge and Organizational Forms in Mexicn Universities" (Eduardo Ibarra-Colado); and (7) "From Cultural Imperialism to Independence: Francophone Resistance to Anglo-American Definitions of Management Knowledge in Quebec" (Jean-Francois Chanlat). In part 3, "The Future of Management," the chapters include: (8) "Interrogating Reframing: Evaluating Metaphor-based Analyses of Organizations" (Ian Palmer and Richard Dunford); (9) "Managing Sceptically: a Critique of Organizational Fashion" (Harvie Ramsay); (10) "The Axeman Cometh: the Changing Roles and Knowledges of Middle Managers" (Harry Scarbrough and Gibson Burrell); and (11) "Management Knowledge for the Future: Innovation, Embryos and New Paradigms" (Stewart R. Clegg, Mary Barrett, Thomas Clarke, Larry Dwyer, John Gray, Sharon Kemp and Jane Marceau). (Includes an index.) (RJM)

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